Transportation of seeds in subsidised to designated seed supplying agencies like National Seeds Corporation. State Farm Corporation of India and State Seeds Corporation by the Central Government under the scheme for Transport subsidy on Seeds. Central assistances on seed tranportation upto Rs.40/- per quintal is also permissible to Assam for supply of seeds in identified remote areas from State Capital under the schemes for Intergrated Seed Development.

According to the 'Fertilizer Statistics' 1994-95 brought out by the Fertilizers Association of India, consumption of fertilisers in Assam was 11 kg/ha compared to an all-India average of 74 kg/ha.

At present only urea fertiliser is under statutory price control and is supplied to Assam at a uniform price of Rs.3320 per

Metric Tonne. The concession ofn decontrolled fertilizers has also been increased with effect from 6-7-96 to make it available to the farmers at cheaper rates.

(c) & (d) The following measues have been taken to increase the per capita consumption of fertilisers in Assam :-

(i) Implementation of sceme on Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers.

(ii) Implementation of the scheme on development of Fertilisers Use in Low Consumption and Rainfed Areas.

(iii) Implementation of the Scheme on Development and Use of Bio-Fertilisers.

Prices of Fertilizers

1545 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any final decision for rationalising the fertiliser price structure;

(b) if so, whether the increase in prices is aimed at discouraging farmers from the indiscriminate use of chemicals;

(c) whether the Government are also considering to enhance the prices of certain chemicals;

(d) whether the new formula will aim at bringing down the per unit cost of NPK;

(e) whether the amount of Rs 500 crore earmarked for fertiliser subsidy has crossed Rs. 760 crore, and

(f) if so, the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Urea is the only fertilizer at present under statutory price control and is sold at a uniform rate of Rs. 3320 per tonne through-out the country. All phosphatic and potassaic fertilizers have been decontrolled and the Government has been giving a concession on their sale to the farmers to encourage consumption.

(c) Department of Chemicals & Petro-chemicals have informed that presently the prices of Chemicals are not monitored and regulated by the Government.

(d) Hon'ble Member is perhaps referring to the scheme of Concessional sale of decontrolled fertilizers to the farmers'.

The scheme is effective from Rabi season 1992-93. The rates of Concession under the scheme have been enhanced w.e.f. 6.7.1996 as under :-

Fertilizer	(Rate per tonne)
DAP (Indigenous)	Rs. 3000/-
DAP (Imported)	Rs. 1500/-
MOP	Rs. 1500/-
SSP	Rs. 500/-
Complexes	From Rs.1304 to 2633 per tonne depending upon their P&K contents.

The State have been asked to ensure that the benefit of the concession is fully passed on to the farmers.

(e) The provision of Rs 500 crores for the financial year 1995-96 was fully utilised. However, the bills for that year are still being received and payments are made from the provisions made for the year 1996-97.

(f) It is because of increase in consumption of fertilizers covered under the scheme.

[Translation]

Manufacture of Railway Bogies

1546 PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present manufacturing and installed capacity of coaches and wagon units in public and private sectors at present separately;

(b) the present requirement of the coaches and wagons in the country;

(c) whether the Government propose to manufacture railway bogies in the Ajmer Coach factory; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) In addition to two production units of Railways viz., ICF/Madras and RCF/Kapurthala, there are two units in Public Sector

which are manufacturing coaches, i.e. M/s. Jessop in Calcutta and M/s. Bharat Earth Movers Limited/ Bangalore. The licensed and installed capacities for manufacturing coaches and wagons are as under:-

S.No.	Firm	Licensed Capacity	Installed capacity as advised by the firms
A.	**Coach manufacturers**		
	Public Sector		
1.	M/s. Bharat Earth Movers Limited. Bangalore	400 BG Coaches	700 BG Coaches
2.	M/s. Jessop & Company Limited. Calcutta	376 MG Coaches 72 EMU Coaches	180 MG Coaches 72 EMU Coaches
	Private Sector	Nil	Nil

S.No.	Firm	Licensed capacity	Installed capacity as verified by CA/COST of Ministry of Finance
1	2	3	4
B.	**Wagon Builders**		
		(Figures in Fourwheeler Units)	
1.	M/s. Bharat Wagon & Engineering Company Limited Muzaffarpur.	2000	997
2.	M/s. Bharat Wagon & Engineering Company Limited. Mokamesh.	2000	1107
3.	M/s. Braithwaite & Company Limited. Calcutta.	3000	3494
4.	M/s. Burn Standrard Company Limited. Burnpur.	3911	3783
5.	M/s. Jessop & Company Limited. Howarh	4750	4210
6.	M/s. Jessop & Company Limited. Calcutta	3279	653
7.	M/s. Southern Structurals Company Limited, Madras (Tamilnadu State Undertaking)	-	-
	Total Public Sector :	18940	14304
	Private Sector		
8.	M/s. Cimmco Birla Limited. Bharatpur	3839	2920
9.	M/s. Hindustan General Industries. Nangloi Delhi	2000	1269
10.	M/s. Modern Industries Sahibabad. Ghaziabad.	2000	1227
11.	M/s. Texmaco Limited. Calcutta.	4800	5738
12.	M/s. Hindustan Development Corporatio. Calcutta	4056	2042
13.	M/s. Binny Engineering	*	*
	Total Private Sector :	16695	13196
	Total Public and Private Sector	35635	27500

* These two units are new and their capacity are not yet established

(b) The present requirement of coaches in 1996-97 has been assessed as 2150 coaches which includes 400 EMU coaches. The wagon requirement for 1996-97 has been assessed at 25000 fourwheelers against Railway's Rolling Stock Programme. In addition there will be some requirement under "Own Your Wagon Scheme".

(c) At present there is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Gauge Conversion

1547. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to convert Gorakhpur-Nautanwan meter gauge line into broad gauge;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome of the survey;

(d) whether funds were already earmarked for this conversion but the work to convert the metre gauge line into broad gauge has still not been completed, and

(e) if so, the time by which the work of converting Gorakhpur to Nautanwan metre gauge line into broad gauge is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.